

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123513  
ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THE ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING GOT UNDERWAY AS SCHEDULED ON MAY 15. WELCOMING STATEMENTS WERE FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSIONS ON FINANCE AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION; FOOD PRODUCTION; AND JOINT VENTURES. BILL LUERS AND AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI THEN DISCUSSED RECENT BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. THE PROCEEDINGS WERE INTERRUPTED SHORTLY AFTER 2:00 PM WHEN DR. BRZEZINSKI ARRIVED. HE OPENED WITH A SHORT WELCOMING STATEMENT IN POLISH THAT ALLUDED TO THE PRESIDENT'S TRANSLATOR PROBLEM. HE SAID THE PRESIDENT HAS WARM MEMORIES OF HIS VISIT, AS DOES SECRETARY KREPS. BRZEZINSKI THEN READ THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE COUNCIL. SPASOWSKI RESPONDED BY READING A LETTER FROM GIEREK.

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3. GIEREK'S LETTER EXTENDED GREETINGS TO THE COUNCIL AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT WOULD CONTINUE. GIEREK NOTED THAT HE AND THE PRESIDENT HAD BOTH REAFFIRMED THEIR DESIRE TO EXPAND ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

4. AFTER THE GIEREK LETTER HAD BEEN READ, BRZEZINSKI SAID THAT WE ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH POLAND. WE REALIZE POLAND'S IMPORTANCE IN EUROPE AND RESPECT POLAND'S COMMITMENTS. THE ECONOMIC ASPECT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP IS HIGHLY VALUED. BRZEZINSKI THEN OPENED THE FLOOR TO QUESTIONS. HE MADE BRIEF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ABOUT EXPORT LICENSING AND FINANCE. HE ADMITTED THAT PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENTS IN THE U.S. HAVE BECOME STRONGER, AND POINTED OUT THAT SOME OF THE SECTORS OF THE U.S. ECONOMY ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE. HE SAID HE HAD TAKEN A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE GOLF-CART DUMPING CASE. HE CONCLUDED BY STRESSING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO SEE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP EXPAND, AND CHARACTERIZED US-POLISH RELATIONS AS COMPLICATED BUT HISTORICALLY FRIENDLY.

5. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FRANK WEIL SPOKE TO THE COUNCIL LUNCH. HE REPORTED THAT HE IS COORDINATING AN INTERAGENCY REVIEW OF U.S. EXPORT POLICY AND HOPES TO PRESENT AN OPTIONS PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE PRESIDENT BY MID-JUNE. WE WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER ON THIS SUBJECT ELSEWHERE.

6. BILL LUERS ADDRESSED THE GROUP FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES IN THE AFTERNOON, MAKING THESE POINTS:  
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A. REITERATION OF IMPORTANCE OF US-POLISH RELATIONS AND OUR COMMITMENT TO EXPANSION OF THESE RELATIONS.

B. THERE ARE LIMITS ON WHAT EACH SIDE CAN DO IN DEVELOPING U.S. RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, OWING TO OUR DIFFERING POLITICAL SYSTEMS, GEOGRAPHY, AND WORLD OUTLOOKS.

C. ALTHOUGH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS THE ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO TREAT RELATIONS WITH EACH EE COUNTRY INDIVIDUALLY, OUR RELATIONS WITH POLAND AND THE OTHERS CANNOT BE DEVELOPED IN TOTAL ISOLATION FROM US-SOVIET RELATIONS. WHILE POINTING OUT THE UNCERTAINTIES IN OUR CURRENT RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, LUERS EXPRESSED HOPE FOR PROGRESS ON SALT AND OTHER ISSUES.

D. ALTHOUGH OUR RELATIONS WITH POLAND GO BACK FURTHER AND ARE MORE FRUITFUL THAN WITH ANY OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY, WE ARE AT A POINT WHERE WE MUST FIND A DEEPER MEANING TO THESE RELATIONS. HE CALLED FOR AN OPEN DIALOGUE AND STRESSED THAT INITIATIVES MUST COME FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, POINTING OUT THE IMPORTANT ROLE THE COUNCIL COULD PLAY IN THIS. CONCLUDING, HE OBSERVED THAT THERE IS NO COUNTRY WITH WHICH WE CAN BE MORE CANDID THAN POLAND AND THAT, INDEED, WE CAN OFTEN BE MORE SO THAN WITH

MANY OF OUR TRADITIONAL ALLIES.

7. BEFORE HIS CONCLUSION, LUERS SPOKE ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. HE SAID THERE ARE OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH HE HAS DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI AND NOTED THAT WE HAVE A NUMBER OF DIVIDED FAMILIES. WE HOPE THAT THIS SITUATION CAN BE RESOLVED. WE ALSO HOPE THAT THE FLOURISHING OF FREE THOUGHT IN POLAND ON A RANGE OF ISSUES WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP. IN AN EARLIER PASSAGE HE HAD OBSERVED THAT POLAND IS DEVELOPING INTO THE MOST OPEN COUNTRY IN EASTERN EUROPE IN TERMS OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOMS AND SUCH THINGS AS AGRICULTURE. HE NOTED THAT WE HAD PLAYED A ROLE IN THIS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE123513  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JSEYMOUR/GBOUTIN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014